Survey on Industrial Growth

4978. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey by the Associations Councils of Confederation of Indian Industry has shown that majority of the sectors have exhibited moderate growth rates and some have indicated clear signs of revival;

(b) if so, whether the survey covered 116 manufacturing sectors and 12 service sectors for April-March, 2001-2002 over corresponding period in the previous financial year;

(c) if so, what are the details of the survey;

(d) whether Government have examined the report; and

(e) if so, what are the other facilities and considerations being provided to the industry to have a better growth in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Associations Council (ASCON) Survey (April—March 2001-2002) has revealed that out of 116 manufacturing sectors, 65 sectors *i.e.* more than 56% of sectors, have exhibited moderate growth of 0-10%, 15 sectors have shown high growth rates of 10 to 20%, 6 sectors have exhibited excellent growth of more than 20%. 30 sectors however, exhibited negative growth rates. The survey also covers 12 service sectors.

The low growth has been mainly due to overall economic slowdown, compression in global demand, slowdown in auto sector and slack in the production of basic goods like Crude Oil Fertilizer, Cold Rolled Steel and Consumer Durable items.

The Government has taken several policy initiatives to boost industrial production in the country. These measures have been targeted to improve competitiveness of Indian industry in general and to boost aggregate demand, improve infrastructure base, upgrade technology, introduce labour flexibility and encourage FDI inflows. Some of the initiatives, *inter alia* are; incentives in the Union Budget 2002-2003 for power, roads, civil aviation and port sectors; completion of Golden Quadrilateral project; corporatisation of major ports in a phased manner; and an allocation of Rs. 2500 crore for Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana for 2002-03; abolition of 16% special excise duty on all except eight items and additional 15% depreciation on new plant and machinery.